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Construction of a tank in Illur village, Anantapur taluk.

*9 Q.—SRI T. NAGI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have proposed to take up the construction of a tank for irrigation in Illur village of Anantapur taluk?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The Government examined the possibility of restoring the breached tank at Illur village, Anantapur taluk, but found that it would not be feasible, as it involved the submersion of a greater cultivable area compared to the area to be irrigated."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, the acreage of land that will be irrigated by the tank and the acreage that will be submerged if the tank is to be constructed? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Two alternative proposals were put forward. One was to irrigate about 100 acres and another to irrigate about 70 acres. But the land to be submerged is about 160 acres, which is a very valuable land and lot of compensation will have to be paid for it."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government know that the land that would be irrigated by the tank belongs mostly to Harijans and poor peasants and that the land to be submerged is only dry land which is not worth as much as the land to be brought under irrigation, and hence it will be much more useful to the people of the village to construct the tank? Therefore, when there is a proposal to bring greater extent of land under irrigation, why should not this dry land be submerged? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" As I have already said, it is not correct to say that a greater extent of land will be irrigated by the tank."

(Sri T. Nagi Reddi rose to speak.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" This sort of cross-examination must cease."

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I can only say that the land to be irrigated is much less in extent than the land to be submerged. I have no information whether the lands to be irrigated belong to Harijans or to any other community."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, what is the exact extent of land to be submerged and the extent to be irrigated? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" The extent of land that is to be submerged is 160 acres. The extent of land to be irrigated is 100 acres according to one proposal and 70 acres according to another proposal."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I tell the Hon. Minister, Sir, that the land which is to be submerged is land within the tank, which was given out on patta when the tank went out of use, and hence it is Government land for the present, and the Government can construct the tank if they want to? "

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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I do not know what the hon. Member means. The land belongs to private individuals. (Interruptions.) It has been given to individuals, and they are in possession of it now. The Government will have to pay compensation if they want to take back the land now."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the pattas given were given to really poor people or to rich people? " 9 a.m.

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I suggest to the hon. Gentleman to put a separate question as I have not got the information on hand."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" When the Government agreed to submerge thousands of acres of land on account of the Malampuzha Project, lands that were very good . . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The supplementary question relates to the Malampuzha Project. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Printing of bus passenger tickets in England.

* 10 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any bus passenger tickets for the City Transport department are printed in England ;

(*b*) if so, how many have been printed and at what cost ; and

(*c*) whether any quotations were called for or any advertisement was made inviting quotations before the order for printing the tickets was placed with an English firm in England?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Passenger tickets of the City Transport are usually got printed locally, but in May 1949 a sample order for the supply of twenty lakhs of tickets of various denominations, covering a week's consumption of the Government Bus Service, was placed with Messrs. Eastern Scales, Limited, Madras, who undertook to supply English made tickets much superior in quality and get up and printed on both sides with double colour at the rate of Rs. 100 per lakh of tickets, as against the local rate of Rs. 100 to Rs. 110 per lakh of tickets.

" (*c*) As the order was only a trial order and the quality compared favourably with the local purchases, quotations were not invited."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I know what the total cost of printing these tickets was? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. the Leader of the Opposition wants to know the cost of an experiment made in 1949. How can it be expected to be answered now by way of answer to a supplementary question? "